

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1, 2, 4, 6, and 10.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 - 6. (Cancelled)

1. (Previously presented) A web camera system for uploading pictures to a web site comprising:

a video camera;

a current frame buffer to hold a current image captured by the video camera;

a previous frame buffer to hold a previous image captured prior to the current image;

a candidate buffer to hold a most recent image for periodic uploading to the web site;

logic circuitry to perform a pixel comparison between the current image and the previous image, the logic circuitry asserting a motion signal when the pixel comparison exceeds a predetermined threshold; and

the web camera system operating according to one of a plurality of modes, in a first mode of operation the current image is loaded into the candidate buffer responsive to the motion signal and in a second mode of operation the current

image is loaded into the candidate buffer after a certain duration has elapsed following assertion of the motion signal.

8. (Cancelled)

2
2 (Previously presented) The web camera system of claim 1 further comprising:
a circular buffer to store successive current images when the motion signal is asserted; and wherein
in a third mode of operation one of the current images stored in the circular buffer is selected for loading into the candidate buffer once the motion signal has been de-asserted for a predetermined time.

10. (Cancelled)

3
3 (Original) A method of operating a web camera system comprising:
capturing a current image frame from a video camera;
asserting a motion detection signal when a pixel comparison between the current image and a previous image frame exceeds a predetermined threshold;
storing in a buffer successive image frames captured from the video camera while the motion detection signal is asserted;
de-asserting the motion detection signal when the predetermined threshold is no longer exceeded for the current image frame;

selecting from the buffer a certain one of the successive image frames as a candidate picture once the motion detection signal has been de-asserted for a certain duration; and

uploading the candidate picture to a web site.

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~~12.~~ (Original) The method according to claim ~~11~~³ wherein the buffer is a circular buffer having a capacity to store a plurality of image frames.

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~~13.~~ (Original) The method according to claim ~~11~~³ wherein the uploading step is performed at periodic time intervals.

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~~14.~~ (Original) The method according to claim ~~11~~³ wherein the certain one of the successive image frames is stored a predetermined time before a last image frame is stored in the buffer prior to de-assertion of the motion detection signal.

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~~15.~~ (Original) A method of operating a web camera system comprising:
capturing a current image frame from a video camera;
asserting a motion detection signal when a pixel comparison between the current image and a previous image frame exceeds a predetermined threshold;
storing in a buffer successive image frames captured from the video camera while the motion detection signal is asserted;

de-asserting the motion detection signal when the predetermined threshold is no longer exceeded for the current image frame;

selecting as a candidate picture either:

- (i) the current image when the motion detection signal is asserted;
- (ii) the current image a first duration following de-assertion of the motion detection signal; or
- (iii) a certain one of the successive image frames from the buffer once the motion detection signal has been de-asserted for a second duration; and

uploading the candidate picture to a web site.

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~~10~~ (Original) The method according to claim ³~~11~~ wherein the buffer is a circular buffer having a capacity to store a plurality of image frames.

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~~11~~ (Original) The method according to claim ³~~11~~ wherein the uploading step is performed at periodic time intervals.

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~~12~~ (Original) The method according to claim ³~~11~~ wherein the certain one of the successive image frames is stored a predetermined time before a last image frame is stored in the buffer prior to de-assertion of the motion detection signal.

11
11/2 (Previously presented) A computer-readable storage medium having a configuration that represents data and instructions that cause a processor to:

assert a motion detection signal when a pixel comparison between the current image frame captured from a video camera and a previous image frame exceeds a predetermined threshold;

store in a buffer successive image frames captured from the video camera while the motion detection signal is asserted;

de-assert the motion detection signal when the predetermined threshold is no longer exceeded for the current image frame;

select from the buffer a certain one of the successive image frames as a candidate picture once the motion detection signal has been de-asserted for a certain duration; and

upload the candidate picture to a web site.

12
20/2 (Previously presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 11/2 wherein the medium is further configured to cause the processor to:

select as a candidate picture either:

the current image when the motion detection signal is asserted;

the current image a first duration following de-assertion of the motion detection signal; or

a certain one of the successive image frames from the buffer once the motion detection signal has been de-asserted for a second duration.